

A  
New Method

o. F.

1043

W R I T I N G

*A Great Deal in a Little Time.*

VIZ.

As much in One Minute, as  
usually takes up a Long While.

Of Singular Use for the Speedy Dis-  
patch of Business, for all Ministers of State,  
Members of Parliament, Divines, Lawyers,  
Students, Gentlemen, Ladies, Merchants,  
Tradesmen, and others that Use their Pen.



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L O N D O N:

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Chap. I. Of this New Way of Writing :  
 With the Reasons for establishing the Six and  
 Twenty Characters used in it.

**T**O write any thing in LESS TIME than the common way of Writing takes up, can be effected no other way, than by *Setting Pen less to Paper*, than common Writing requires.—It being upon this Foundation only, that any Method of more expeditious Writing, than is commonly used in the World, must be built.—But

How to effect this, and yet to Copy out, or Write down any thing AT LENGTH, & leave out nothing, is the difficulty.

’Tis impossible to do this, and use the SAME Letters that are used in common Writing, they taking up so much *Setting of Pen to Paper*, & *Time*, in their Make, and joining together.

For, if any one is to write, for Example, the Word---*Man*---. If they write the common Letters *M*—*a*— and —*n*,

They must necessarily be as long in writing it, as any one else would be, that should also use the *Same Letters*:

Abstracting from any habitual Facility and Quickness in Writing, which any one particular Person may by long Use, Practice, and *Much Writing*, have acquired proper to themselves:

Some Persons writing much quicker, and faster, than others. But such a Quickness of Writing not belonging to this *Question*;

’Tis absolutely necessary, to have recourse to some other SET of Letters, that may be *Sooner made*, & with much *Less Setting of Pen to Paper*, than the common Alphabet requires :

There being no other Way in the World but this, of Writing any thing in LESS TIME, than is usually done.

This being thus established, enquiry must be made after some other Sort of Letters, than commonly used :

They taking up too much time in their Make, to write any thing in *Less time*, than is usually done in common Writing.

The Learned Dr. *Wilkins* Bp of *Chester*, *Tritheimius*, and other Authors who have treated on this Subject, being sensible of this, and being desirous to introduce into the World (for a Publick Good) amongst Scholars, and Men of Learning, and Business, a more Expeditious Method of Writing than commonly used, in order to lessen the great Labour and Fatigue Men of Learning and Business undergo, from that deal of *Setting of Pen to Paper*, which the common Way of Writing takes up, have all of them invented particular New Sets of Letters, or Alphabets of their own, of a quite different Figure, Make, and Shape, from the common Way of Writing.

And Bp. *Wilkins* in particular, calls His, *A Philosophical Character*, for a Way of more Speedy and Expeditious Writing, than usually practised.

All

All of them agreeing in this *One Point*, that to write any thing in *Less Time* than usually is done, *Less Setting of Pen to Paper* is so absolutely necessary, that No other Way can possibly do it.

For this Reason therefore, these Authors have thus invented New Alphabets, consisting of Certain *Short Characters*, or Marks, that may stand for, and signify Each of the Six and Twenty Letters of our Common Alphabet, and which Characters in their Make, and Joining together, may require a great deal *Less Setting of Pen to Paper*, than common Writing does.

Nor is this at all unreasonable; there being nothing *Intrinsic* in any one Letter by it self, or even Combination of Letters joined together, to signify any One thing more than another, if Men had not agreed for them so to do.—For Example,

These Three Letters *M. A. N.* in the *English Tongue*:

Or these Four Letters *H. O. M. O.* in *Latin*, abstracting from the universal Agreement of Mankind, have nothing *Intrinsic* in them, more than One Single Tittle, or Touch of the Pen to Paper has, to signify A Man more than a Horse:

Being according to Philosophers only *Signa ad Placitum*, to bring to our Mind such and such Notions and Ideas, dependently only on the Common Acceptation and Agreement of Mankind, and therefore might as well have signified a Horse, a Dog, or any other thing, if Men had but so agreed.

This being thus established, Enquiry must now be made after some other *Set of Letters*, that may require *Less Setting of Pen to Paper*, and Take up Much *Less Time* in their Make and Joining together, than Common Writing does.

In order to this it is to be Noted, that the *LEAST Setting of Pen to Paper* that can possibly be, is One Single Tittle, or Touch of the Pen on the Paper. And which Tittle might signify a Man, Or a Horse, or any thing else, as well as those Three Letters *M—a—n.*—joined together do, if Men did but so agree.

The Next *Least Setting of Pen to Paper* after One Single Tittle, is a Single Stroak, or Dash of the Pen, and which may be made with *Eight Differences*, *viz.* Either Short, or Long;

Or strait down, or strait forward; Or slope from the Right-Hand to the Left, or from the Left-Hand to the Right, as in making *Eight* such Stroaks, any one will find.

The next *Least Setting of Pen to Paper* to a single strait Stroak, is a *Bended*, or crooked Stroak or Dash of the Pen, and this Stroak may be bended *Four* different Ways, — *viz.*

Either upwards, or downwards, or forwards, or backwards, &c.

All which Marks, according to their different Variations, may as well stand for, and signify different Things, and are as sufficiently distinguishable one from another, as in common Writing, the Letter *A*, is different from *B*, and the Letter *B* from the Letter *C*, only by their different Figure, Make, and Shape, and so of other Letters.

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This being thus far established, 'tis easy now for any one to invent, make, and suppose Six and Twenty Marks, or Characters, to signify and stand for the Six and Twenty Letters of the Common Alphabet, and which Characters may join very well one to the other in some certain *Words* in any *One Language*:

But, to Frame a New Alphabet of Characters or Marks, of such a large Number as Six and Twenty, that may readily *Fall in*, and *Join Aptly* and cleverly together in most *Words* and *Languages*, without any *Confusion*, is the *Difficulty*.

And indeed has been a *Difficulty* so great, that to avoid it, the Authors of all the Methods of *Expeditious Writing* hitherto Published, have been obliged to invent great Numbers of *Symbolical Characters*, and such like puzzling, and burdensome *Inventions to the Memory*, (and which have no manner of *Connexion* at all with their *Alphabets*) to stand for, and signify *Prepositions*, and *Terminations* of *Words*, which they could not express by joining together the Characters of their *Alphabets*.

The Reason of which is, their *Alphabets* are ill chosen, consisting of Characters that perhaps may join together well enough in some Few certain *Words*, but do not do so in *All*, and consequently cannot of themselves express all *Words*. — Whereas,

The Six and Twenty Characters here proposed to express the 26 Letters of our Common Alphabet by, are made not only the most Simple, and least Compound, and so require the seldomest *Taking off the Pen*, and *Least Setting of it to Paper*, of any extant.

But also, they are so chosen, as to join together easily, and cleverly one with another, not only in some few *Words*, (which any one may easily invent) but have been proved and tried in all usual *Combinations* and *Joinings* of Letters & *Syllables*, throughout the extent of the whole *English*, *French*, and *Latin Tongues*.

So that being only joined together, they of themselves express any *Preposition* or *Termination*, without recourse to any *Arbitrary Characters* and *Symbolical Ideas*, and such like *Inventions*, which Books of *Expeditious Writing* are always stuffed with.

These Six and Twenty Characters then, being but once established, admitted, and granted, to signify and stand for the Six and Twenty Letters of our Common Alphabet,

The writing of *Any Word* or *Sentence* with them in *Any Language*, follows by *Rules* and *Principles* so certain, and even infallible, that whatever is writ with them, CAN signify nothing else, but such *Words* & *Sentences* as they are designed to express.

And therefore any one that knows but these *Rules*, may Read any thing written by any other Person by this *Method*, as well as the Person that writ it themselves. All the Difference then in the main, between this way of *Writing* & the Common, is,

That such *Words* and *Sentences*, are writ in a great deal less *Time*, than possibly they could be, by any *common Hand*: And this the End aimed at, in this *New Way of Writing*. Chap. II.

**Chap. II. An Account of the Make, Shape, and Figure of the Six and Twenty Characters of the Alphabet, in this New Way of Writing, as they lie in the Engraven Page to this Book.**

*With the Reasons why each of them is here used to express such and such a Letter by, rather than of any other Figure, Make, or Shape.*

**A** — This First Letter of the Alphabet, is in this New Way of Writing expressed by a very little short Stroak, or Touch of the Pen drawn strait down.

The Reason for which is : This Letter occurring the oftnest to be writ of any of the whole Alphabet : — (Because,

Besides the very great Number of Words, as well in the *Latin* and *French* Tongues, as in *English*, that begin with *A*.

'Tis particularly in the *English* Tongue, an almost constantly used Particle, either to be expressed by it self and alone, before Words begining with a Consonant, as *A Man, A Book, &c.*

Or with an — *n* — joined to it before Words begining with a Vowel, as *An Angel, An Enemy, &c.*)

This Letter is therefore thus expressed in this Way of Writing, by this little short Stroak of the Pen drawn strait down,

Because this little Stroak, is the *Easiest* Setting of Pen to Paper that can be, and therefore is the most commodious Character of any of all the Six and Twenty, for this Letter *A*.

For whenever the Letter — *A* — is a Particle by it self, 'tis thus very easily and readily made, and stands and looks well by it self.

And when 'tis the Particle *An* before Words that begin with Vowels, the Character for — *n* — is easily added to it, by writing it in an even Line just after it ; as in Writing, any one will find.

The Word that ofteneſt occurs, begining with the Letter *a*, in the whole Extent of the *English* Tongue, is the Word — *and* — being an almost constantly used Particle in all manner of Writing, Discourse, and Businesſ ; to exprefſ which, there is a much readier Way, than by writing the Characters for *a. n. d.* at length, proposed in the Second Part to This Book :

And which greatly concurs to Expedition in Writing.

For in this Way of Writing, the *Shortest* Words are sometimes the *Longest* in Writing : And therefore, an Expeditious Method of Writing such little short Words and Particles that ofteneſt occur, is the greatest Help to expeditious Writing, that can be.

As for the Middle and Ends of Words, the Letter *a* is never writ there in its own Character, in this Way of Writing,

But is expressed by far much easier Rules for supplying Vowels in the Middle, and Ends of Words, mentioned hereafter in the 7th, 8th, and 9th Chapters.

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**B** — The Character for this Letter, is a long stroak of the Pen drawn forwards, not strait along, but Bended a little downwards, and is not only very easily and readily made,

But also is the most commodious for the joining to it the Characters for all those Letters, that usually precede and follow **B.** as *bl.* *br.* *mb.* *tbl.* *bs.* &c. as will appear by writing them.

And as *l.* *r.* and *s.* are the Letters that the oftenest of any follow *b*, as in such Words as these, *Blessing*, *Blood*, *Bring*, *Observe*, *Substance*, &c. So the Characters for these Letters, very naturally and readily join to the End of this Character.

**C** — The Character for this Letter is a Semi-Circle, like a Roman — **C** — in common *Writing*, and is very easily made.

And is kept also here in this Method of Writing, because it easily joins with the Characters for all those Letters, that generally either follow, or go immediately before — **C**.

**C** before *h*, having a peculiar Sound by it self, which in the English Tongue extraordinary frequently occurs, as in the Words *Change*, *Charity*, *Chance*, *Church*, *Rich*, &c. there is in the Second Part to this Treatise, a Particular easy way of *Writing* it by it self, which conduces to much more easy *Writing*, than the expressing the Characters for *C* and *h* joined together would be.

**D** — This Character is a little Stroak just about the Length of the Character for *A*, but drawn sloap and aside, either up or down, in the Beginning, Middle, and End of Words, as the ready joining of the preceeding or following Letter requires.

How this Character for *d* is to be expressed after the Character for *r*, as in the Words *Hard*, *Bird*, &c. (which is the only Difficulty this Character admits of) See the Engraven page, and also the Letter *R.* in the continuation of this Alphabet in the 2d Part where likewise is shewed how *t* is to be expressed after *r*.

**E** — This Letter is express by Two little *Stroaks* drawn cross thro one another, either strait (thus +) or sloap (thus X) as the ready joining of the following Characters to it may require.

This Character must be made at twice, by taking off the Pen, which in this Way of Writing is indeed to be avoided in the making of any Character or Letter, as much as possibly can.

But since there are not *Simple* Stroaks or Characters enough, to express so large a Number as Six and Twenty Letters by;

Recourse must necessarily be had to a Few, that require in their Make, taking off the Pen, tho to as few as may be.

And therefore, in this Alphabet of Characters, there are only Four such, to wit, the Characters for *E*, *J* (consonant) *K*, and *Y*.

All which, nevertheless will be found to be as readily made in those Words they occur in, as any of the other simple Characters whatsoever. — Since then, recourse must be had to some Few Characters that require in their Make, the Taking the Pen off from the Paper, (where so large a Number as Six & Twenty are wanted) 'tis best to use them, where they

Either

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Either seldomeſt occur, as they do in those Three Letters *j.*, *k.* and *y.* these Three Letters being the seldomeſt used, next to the Letter *z.* of any of the Letters of the whole Alphabet.

Or, where ſuch a Character as is here made to express this Letter *E* by, is easiest written, as this is, in all those Words that begin with *E.* This Character for *E*, being a plain obvious Character, that can give no manner of Difficultie in its Make.

Again: Either of these Characters for *e*—is also very easily & ſoon added to the End of any Character whatſoever at the End of Words, in which, altho the Sound of *E* may be ſilent, and only ſerves to lengthen the foregoing Vowel, yet for Clearneſſ and Diſtincſion ſake in this Way of Writing, may be thus by this Character very easily expreſſed, whenever Persons have a Mind to diſtinguiſh clearly from one another, Words that otherwiſe would be doubtful, and which are for Example, ſuch Words as theſe, *Made* from *Mad.* *Tale* from *Tall.* *Fat* from *Fate.* *Sing* from *Singe.* *Rag* from *Rage.* *Fir* from *Fire*, &c.—But

If any one thinks they can ſufficiently diſtinguiſh in this Way of Writing, ſuch Words as theſe one from another, without thus expreſſing the Quieſcent *e* at the End, they may leave it out,

And this is the only Caſe, in which the Vowel *e* at the End of Words in which it is not ſounded and expreſſed, need be writ in its own proper Character in this way of Writing: And even this only for Clearneſſ & Diſtincſion ſake, as was now ſaid.

Again:—This Letter *e*, whenever it is thus written by its own proper Character, at the End of a Word, is always ſilent, and only ſhews, that the foregoing Vowel is lengthned, and thereby gives a diſtincſion Sound to the word, from what it would have, if it was ſhort, as appears in the words *Fate*, and *Fat*, &c.

As for Words ending in *e*, that have the *e* ſounded in them, ſuch as *be*, *he*, *me*, *ſhe*, *we*, and ſuch like, the *e* in the End is always ſupplied by putting a Tittle in the Place of the Vowel *e* to the foregoing Conſonant, according to the Rule of expreſſing Vowels at the End of Words, hereafter in the 9th Chapter.

The Letter that moſt of all follows *E* in the Beginnings of Words, is — *n*, — as in ſuch words as theſe *Enemy*, *enjy*, *enquire*, *enter*, *Envy*, &c. Some of which Words almoſt always occur in all manner of Writing.—Therefore in ſuch words as theſe,

The middle ſtraiſt croſſ Stroak of the (iſt) Character for *E*, is, with no more trouble, than making the Letter it ſelf, eaſily drawn forwards a little longer, & then it fully expreſſes the Syllable *En.*

All other Characters that follow *E*, are eaſily joined to it.

**F**— The Character for this Letter, is a long Stroak of the Pen, drawn ſtraiſt down like the Character for *A*,

But is diſtinguiſhed ſufficiently from the Character for *A*, which is only a very ſhort Stroak of the Pen drawn downwards,

Whereas this Character for — *F*— is full as long again or more, as the Character for *A*. This

This Character agrees the best of any to those Words that have an *f* in them: — Thus it lies very commodious for the Termination *ful*, which is very frequent in the *English Tongue*.

The Characters for the Letters *l*, and *r*, which most frequently of any follow — *F* — as *Fl. Fr.* are likewise readily drawn from it, as by writing them any one will find.

**G** — The Character for this Letter is plain, and easily made at once, without taking off the Pen.

The Letter that oftenest precedes it (especially in the *English Tongue*) is — *n* — to the Character for which, it is very easily joined, as in *Long, Hang, Sing, Thing*, and all other Words ending in *ing*, which are very numerous in the *English Tongue*.

And the Letters that oftenest follow — *G* — are *l* and *r*, as in the Words *Glory, Great, &c.* and which are just in the same manner drawn from this Character for *G*, as they are from *F*.

**H** — This Character is a small *Roman-h* — the same as in common Writing: And is kept here, because it aptly joins to those Letters which require an — *h* — to be joined to them, as by a little Practice in Writing will soon appear.

Thus for Example, it is easily added to the Letter *g*, by making the strait down Stroak of the Character for *g* into — *an h*, in all those words that require in the writing of *true Orthography* (which this New Way of *Writing*, is not at all inconsistent with, nor designed to destroy) to have the *gb* exprest in them.

As for Example *gh* in the words *Sigh, Cough, Tough, Laugh, &c.*

But the most of all, that the Letter *h* occurs, is in the Syllables *Ch. Sh.* and *Th.* and which have all particular Sounds, and are very frequent in the *English Tongue*, — And therefore

For the expressing of them, there is a much more convenient, as well as more expeditious way in the *Second Part* to this Book,

As also for the ready and easy expressing of the (almost continually used in the *English Tongue*) Particle — *the* :

Also, that particular Character for *Th.* which is in the Engraven Page to the *Second Part*, lies extremely commodious to draw an *r* from it, which Letter *r* is the most usually joined to — *th* — of any of the whole Alphabet.

**I** (Vowel.) — This Letter — *I* — is always a Vowel, when it goes immediately before a Consonant.

This Vowel is exprest by a small Tittle standing by it self.

This Tittle is here made use of to express in the begining of words this *I* (vowel) because, altho one single Tittle is indeed the LEAST Setting of Pen to Paper that can be;

Yet to make a Tittle carefully, neither too big, nor too little, and in a particular right Place, neither too high, nor too low, &c. may perhaps take up as much time, as making any common Stroak with the pen: And therefore a small *Tittle* rather than any Stroak of the Pen, is purposely used to express this Vowel — *I* — by: — Because This

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This Vowel being in a manner but half a Letter, being only used in words that have a Consonant immediately following the Vowel *I*, by consequence comes but the quantity of times of only half a Letter in play; and when it does occur, 'tis soon made.

The most of all that it does occur, is in the Particle *In*; either as it is a word by it self, as it is very often in *Latin & English*.

Or, as it is a Preposition in the begining of words, as in the words *Infirmity, Intention*, and such like, which is indeed very frequent in as well the *Latin and French*, as the *English Tongue*.

And when it does so occur, a Tittle is *Easily* and *Soon* made, and the Character for *n* as easily put in an even Line just after it.

but as this Particle *In*, is very frequent in *English & Latin*.

Therefore, for yet more expeditious writing by this Method, there is in the Second Part of this Book, a much more ready and expeditious way of expressing this Particle *In*, than by making a tittle, and then writing after it the Character for *n*.

The next most usually occurring words that begin with —i— (vowel) are the Particles *is*, and *it*, & which are in almost every *English Sentence*: And therefore there is also in the Second Part, a much more ready and expeditious way of expressing these little Particles, than would be by this tittle.

So that by these means, this *Tittle* does not come very often in play to be written, as, from what has been said, plainly appears.

**J** (Consonant) ————— The Letter *J*, is always a Consonant when it goes immediately before a *Vowel*.

This Letter is another Character to be made at twice; requiring in its Make the taking off the Pen:

For after having drawn a little stroak down, some little Matter longer than the Character for *A*, then, from exactly the middle of this little down Stroak, draw away strait forwards another little strait stroak like the Character for —n.

But as this Consonant *J* is, (as was just now said of the *Vowel I*) in a manner but Half a Letter, being only used in words that have a *Vowel* immediately following the *J*, by consequence it comes but the quantity of times of only half a Letter in play.

And when it does occur, this Character tho to be made at twice, by taking off the Pen from the Paper, is very easily made.

The Letters that *j* (consonant) most frequently follows in the middle of words, are the Letters *b* and *n* as in the words *Abject, Object, Subject, Conjecture, Enjoy, Injury, &c.*

And when it thus occurs, this Character is very easily joined to, and drawn from the Characters for *b* and *n*.

**K** ————— This Character again, requires in its Make, the taking off the Pen, being to be made thus:

Make first the Character for *n*, which is a little Stroak drawn strait forwards; then take off your Pen, & draw just such a little stroak down from the begining of this Character for *n*, as is made to express the Letter *A* by.

**B** **And**

And then draw away forward (without taking off your Pen) from the Foot of this little down Stroak, another just such a Stroak, and just of the same length to correspond to, and be even with that strait Stroak, which you made first like *n*.

Which 3 Stroaks thus joined, make a squarish kind of Character, and requires in the making it, but *Once* taking off the Pen.

This Character thus made, expresses best of any this Letter *k*: Because, as the Consonant that most of any of the whole Alphabet, immediately both preceedes and follows *K*, (to be joined to it) is the Letter *n*; as in *Know*, *Think*, &c.

So the Character for *n*—is the easiest of any of the whole Alphabet, drawn away strait forward from the lower Stroak of this Character for *K*, by making the lower stroak of the Character for *K*, a little longer strait on forwards when you are about it.

And also, this Character for *k*, is as easily added to the Character for *n*, by drawing the strait Stroak for *n*, only out a little longer (when you are about it) to allow length, and room to make the end of the Character for *n* into a *k*.—So that

Altho this Character for *k*, requires in its Make the taking off of the Pen, & seemingly looks to be but an awkward sort of Character, yet in all those words that have a—*k*—in them, is Make is such, & it lies so very convenient to join to an (which it is oftenest joined to of any Letter, as was just now said that it is as easily writ as any other Character in the Alphabet.

Thus far has been an Account of the Make, Shape and Figure of the First Eleven Characters used in this Way of Writing, to correspond to the First Eleven Letters of the Alphabet: With the Reasons why each of them is chose here made use of to express such and such a Letter by, rather than of any other Shape, Figure, or Make whatsoever.

But, the farther account of the remaining Fifteen Characters of the Alphabet, proving too much for the designed Brevity of this Book, therefore the continuation of this Subject is refered to the Second Part of this Treatise where it is finished.—An

Where Letter by Letter are distinctly examined, and Reasons given for the Make, Shape and Figure of the other remaining Fifteen Characters of the Alphabet, begining with the Letter *l*.

Where is shewn how the Character for *f* is to be joined after the Character for *l*, as in *Self*, *Wolf*, &c. to distinguish it from

For, this First Part being designed only for just PLAIN Writing, therefore it is so calculated, as to contain only what just necessary for this End, and no more:

So that those Persons who aim at a greater Perfection in the Way of Writing than this First Part contains, are refer'd to the 2d Part that is published of this Book, where they will find the Expectations fully answered, We'll therefore now proceed to the Rules themselves for learning this Method.

## Chap. III. Rules for Learning this Way of Writing.

THE Six and Twenty Characters in the Engraven page belonging to this Book, corresponding to the Six and twenty Letters of the *Alphabet*, must be got perfectly by Heart, being the Foundation of this *New Way of Writing*.

And in writing them, care must be taken, to make them as exactly as possible in Shape, Straitnes, or Slopenes; like those in the Engraven page, which is along with this Book.

Because a Failure in this Point, may cause Confusion, and a Mistake of one Letter for another:

For Example, If the Character for *F*, be not made exactly strait down, it may not be distinguished from *T*.

The same proportionably is to be said of the Shape and Figure of several other of the Characters.

For altho *Brevity* be the Point aimed at in this Art, Yet Distinction must be no less consulted, and the least appearance of Confusion avoided. —— Next

In the Begining you must write,

*First*, Very Slow and with Care.

*2ly*, Besure don't write your Lines too close to one another, but give sufficient Distance, Space, and Room between them, that your Writing may lie clear, plain and distinct.

For, it is not the saving of Paper (which is cheap enough) but TIME that is aimed at, in this *Way of Writing*.

*3ly*, Write but a little at a time.

*4ly*, Read presently over what you have writ. —— And

*Lastly*, Accustome your self from the very begining of your Learning, to make your Characters always full as large as *These* in the Engraven Page, which will make your Writing clear, plain, and distinct for you afterwards to read.

Persons too naturally dwindle into a small Hand, which is a great Fault in all Writing, & soon spoils the best Hand.

Swiftnes and Facility in Writing, will come of it self afterwards, by a little Use and Practice.

## Chap. IV. Of the Consonants.

When Two or more Consonants occur together, either in the Begining, Middle, or End of any Word, the Characters for them must be always joined together without taking off the Pen if possible, always joining the following Character where you ended the last. —— Thus for Example

To write *Fl*, having made your long strait down Stroak which is the Character for *F*, then, draw round upwards from the Foot of it, the Semi-circular Character for *l*, as you may see in the Engraven Page.

Chap. V. Of One single Vowel in the Begining of a Word.

In this Way of Writing whenever a Word begins with a Vowel, write it in the following manner.

If the Word begins with *A*, *I*, or *O*, with a Consonant immediately following, you must make your little down Stroak for *A*.

Or your little or great Tittles standing by themselves, for *I*, or *O*:

Which having made, take off your Pen, and proceed in an even Line with the Character for whatever Letter follows.

But, if a Word begins with *E*, or *U*, with a Consonant immediately following, you must write the Character for either of these two Vowels *E* or *U*, and join to them the Character for the following Consonant. Because these two Vowels, admit of the joining of any Consonant whatsoever to them, which the Characters for *A*, *I*, (Vowel) and *O*, do not.

*Note.* The Characters for —*u*—(vowel) and —*n*— being of the very same Make, and differing only in length, there are in the Engraven Page particular Characters by themselves for the Syllables *Nu* and *Un* in the Begining and Middle of Words.

Chap. VI. Of 2 Vowels in the Begining of a Word.

When a Word begins with Two Vowels together which should both be expressed, as in such Words as these,

*Ail, Aim, Air, Ait, (in Latin) Austerity, Aut, Author, Ear, Earth, Ease, Eat, Eis (in Latin) Eucharist, Oath, Oeconomy, Oil, Ointment, Our, Out, &c.* write them in the manner following.

If the Word begins with *A*, *I*, or *O*, write the Character for *A*,

Or make the Tittles by themselves for *I* or *O*, and take off your Pen, and then proceed in an even Line with the Character for the next Vowel; — which having likewise made,

If this second Vowel be an *i*, as in the words *Ail, Aim, &c.*

Put a Tittle just even to the middle of your Character for *A*, and take off your Pen, and proceed again in an even Line with the Character for *R*, or any other Conionant that shall follow *i*.

If the second Vowel be *U*, as in the word *Austerity*, having made your Character for *A*, take off your Pen and let *A* stand by it self, & then put the Character for *u* just by it in an even Line;

And join to the Character for *u* the Character for *s*, or any other Conionant that may follow *u*, as in the word *Author, &c.*

If the Word begins with *E*, make your Character for *E*, and let it stand by it self, and if the second Vowel be *a* or *i*, as in the words *Ear, Earth, Ease, Eat, Eis (in Latin :)* &c.

Then put down just by it in an even Line, the Character for *a*, or the Tittle for *i*.— Either of which likewise having made, take off your Pen, and proceed again in an even Line with the Character for whatever Consonant follows.

## Chap. VII. Of *Vowels in the Middle of Words.*

### *And First,---Of One single Vowel in the Middle of a Word.*

**V**owels in the Middle and Ends of *Words* in this Way of Writing, are seldom expressed by their proper Characters: The omission of which, cuts off a great deal of Setting of Pen to Paper: — And when they are to be expressed in the Ends of *Words* will be hereafter shewn.

Vowels in the Middle of *Words*, are expressed by putting the Consonant that follows them in certain Places assign'd for the Vowels about a Character. — So for Example,

To write *Fan*, having made the Character for *F*, take off your Pen, and put the Character for *n* just over the Head of *F*, which is the Place of *a*. as you may see in the engraven Page.

To write *Fen*, put the Character for *n* even with the upper Corner on the right Hand of *F*, which is the Place of *e*.

To write *Fin*, put —*n*— even with the Middle of *F*, on the right Hand, which is the Place of *i*.

To write *Fon*, put *n* even with the Foot of *F* forwards, towards the right hand, which is the Place of *o*.

And to write *Fun*, put *n* just under *F*, which is the Place of *u*. See these Examples in the Engraven Page.

And proceed on with the following Letters of your word; joining together in these Vowels Places, what Consonants occur together, 'till you come at another Vowel; and then again

Take off your Pen, & place your next Consonant after another Vowel, in the respective Place for such a Vowel, about the Consonant which you writ last, as you may practise by writing the words *Fancy, Ferment, Finger, Forget, Furnish, &c.*

And always observe to reckon the Vowels places, in regard to *That Character, or Tittle which you writ Last.*

## Chap. VIII. Of *Vowels occurring together in the Middle of Words.*

**W**hen Two Vowels MUST both be expressed in the Middle of any word, put a Tittle in the first Vowel's Place about the foregoing Consonant, that is, in *That* of the 5 above-mentioned Places assign'd for the Vowels about the Consonant you writ last, which corresponds to the 1st *Vowel* of the Two.

And then, put the Consonant that follows the second Vowel, in the Place of the second Vowel about that Tittle.

For one may Distinguish Five distinct Places, as well about even any *Tittle*, as one may about any *Character*, as you may see in the word *Lion* in the Engraven Page. In

In which word *Lion*, you see the Tittle for *i*, is put in the Place of *i*, which place is just even with the Middle of the Character for *L*.—And the Character for *n* is put in the Place of *o* (which is just even with the Foot of any Character towards the right Hand) to that Tittle for *i*.

In this manner, may be writ any other Word that has two Vowels together in it; which two Vowels are usually what Grammarians call a Diphthong, and make but one Sound.

But here in this Method of Writing, for Clearness and Distinction sake, and to avoid burdening the Learner's Memory with Multiplicity of Rules, All Diphthongs, are thus writ by expressing both the Vowels according to these foregoing Rules: Such words as these are *Boil*, *Toil*, *Soil*, &c.

Where double *ee*, or double *oo* should for Clearness and Distinction sake be expressed in the Middle of a word, as in the words *Keep*, *Sleep*, *Fool*, *School*, *Food*, &c.

To express the First of these two Vowels, put a Tittle in the Place of *e* or *o*, to the foregoing Consonant:

And then, put the Character for the Consonant that immediately follows the second *e* or *o*, in the Place of *e* or *o*, to that Tittle, just according to the foregoing Rules.

As to the Diphthong *ou*, which is one of the most frequent Sounds in the *English Tongue*, when 'tis in the Middle of a word,

'Tis expressed in this Way of *Writing*, by putting the Character it self for *u* (*Vowel*) in the Place of *o*, to whatever Character or Tittle, whether it be for a *Vowel* or Consonant that immediately goes before *o*. And then add and join to the Character for *u*, whatever Consonant follows *u*.

Words of this kind are such as these, *Righteous*, *Grievous*, *Hainous*, *Precious*, *Curious*, &c. See *Pious* in the Engraven page.

## Chap. IX. Of Vowels in the Ends of Words.

**V**owels in the Ends of Words, are expressed by putting a Tittle in any of the above-mentioned 5 Places assigned for expressing the 5 *Vowels*, as you may see in the Examples of *ma*, *me*, *mi*, *mo*, *mu*, in the Engraven Page.

And these Five Places are also to be used and minded about any of the other Characters, proportionably as the Make and Shape of the Character will allow.

When 2 *Vowels* must both be expressed in the End of a word,

Put a Tittle for the First *Vowel* in its respective Place to the foregoing Consonant: And then, put another Tittle for the 2d *Vowel* in its respective Place also, about the Tittle for the 1st *Vowel*.

Five distinct Places being as visible and (with but a little Care in writing) full as distinguishable about even a small Tittle, as about any Character whatsoever, as was above said, as you may see in the word *Leo*, in the Engraven Page.

*A Great Deal in a Little Time.*

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In which Latin word *Leo*, you see that the first Tittle for the Vowel *e* is put in the Place of *e* (that is, at the upper Corner on the right Hand) to the Character for *L*.

And the second Tittle for the next Vowel *o*, is put in the Place of *o*, to the first Tittle, that is, opposite to the Foot of it.

In the same manner write the words *Dei, Noë, Cloë, &c.*

The Diphthong *ow*, as in the words, *Power, How, Now, &c.* is expressed by putting the Character for *w* in the Place of *o*, to the Character that immediately goes before *o*. See *how*.

The Diphthong *oy*, as in the words *Royal, Loyal, Boy, &c.* is expressed by putting the Character for *y* in the Place of *o* to the Character for the Consonant that immediately goes before *o*.

When the 1st Vowel in the middle of a word is *a*, and the 2d *u*:

Or when the first Vowel is *u*, and the second *a*, as in the words *Nature, Statute, Human, Frugal*, and such like.

The Place of the second Vowel in such words as these being taken up, you must write and express the Character it self for —*u*—here in the middle of all such words as these, by drawing away forward the long Stroak, which is the Character for *u* (Vowel) from the Consonant that immediately goes before —*u*.

Thus by a very few Rules are expressed whatever Combinations and Joinings of Vowels or Consonants can occur in any Language:

 The Rules hitherto laid down, are what are just necessary for Plain Writing, and no more: — And by which

A Great deal may be writ by any Person in a Little time, and nothing at all Left out, the supplying of Vowels by certain distinct places about any Character, signifying in reality such and such Vowels, full as much as if such Vowels were actually expressed and Written in their own proper Characters.

But as some Persons may be desirous of still greater Perfection in this Art, in order to write a Great deal MORE in a Little Time, than these plain Rules direct; — Therefore

There is a Second Part published to this Book, and Given also to those Customers that desire it, as this Book is.

And which (besides its clearing all those References above-mentioned, with the Remainder of the Examination of the above-begun Alphabet, begining with the Letter *L*, with useful Remarks on the remaining Fifteen Letters of the Alphabet;) contains Rules for the writing yet far much more in a little time, than by the foregoing plain Rules can be done;

For by them the Quantity, (& Measure were it to be taken) of long Words of 5 or 6 Syllables, and by consequence the Setting of Pen to Paper in the writing of them, is not near so much, as the making of only one single Letter in common Writing:

Together with Rules for the Abbreviating above a Hundred Thousand Words, by which means whole Sentences are writ as soon as a word.

*ADVE*

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